



The

# Parish Visitor

*A Publication of Bethlehem Lutheran Church • Askov, Minnesota*

January 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## *A Message From Our SAM*

Our Northeastern Minnesota Synod ELCA has been a wealth of information. It was our Bishop, Reverend Amy Odgren who appointed me as Bethlehem Lutherans Synod Authorized Minister (S.A.M.). She and her staff have guided me in serving you.

Our Synod does so much! It offers us many learning opportunities to grow in discipleship. Loving our neighbor through missions – This is where our Mission Support giving mainly goes – directly to the needs of others.

Below is a list of Ministry Partners who receive some financial support from our giving:

- [Luther Seminary](#)
- [Lutheran Campus Ministry - UMD](#)
- [Minnesota Council of Churches](#)
- [Twin Ports Ministry to Seafarers](#)
- [Lutheran Advocacy Minnesota](#)
- [Together Here Ministries](#)
- [Companion Synods](#)

Please take a look at our website – I say ours as we are part of the synod: <http://www.nemnsynod.org/>

If you are interested in attending Lay Leader Network activities please chat with me. It is a great program to learn and grow. I was blessed in my growing by being on this board for several years after going through the program. <http://www.nemnsynod.org/lay-leader-network.html>

I praise our Lord for so many gifts...

The gift of allowing me to be a SAM at Bethlehem

The gift of growing together with you in discipleship

The gift of Christ Jesus as a baby

The gift that we can worship and celebrate Him in His house together.

The gift of you.... My brother or sister in Christ



*- Clara*

### *January Worship Schedule*



January 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Worship	Becky Gaede	Worship 10 am
January 9 <sup>th</sup> Holy Communion	Clara Edin, SAM	Worship 10 am
January 16 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Worship	Becky Gaede	Worship 10 am
January 23 <sup>rd</sup> Holy Communion	Clara Edin, SAM	Worship 10 am
January 30 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Worship	Eleanor Eskuri	Worship 10 am

### *IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers*

**Please include the following people in your daily prayers:**

Jan Ecklund, Lois Sahlen, Don Petersen, Buzz & Sally Mortensen, Naevia Roth, Meghan Carlson, Kerri Gortmaker, Tracy Jensen, Bob Carman, and their families.  
The family of Lorraine Petersen.

*If you would like to add someone to the weekly list, please email the church office at [blcaskov@gmail.com](mailto:blcaskov@gmail.com) or let Clara know*



**COUNCIL MEETING**

**December 8, 2021  
Unapproved Minutes**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Clara Edin, Chuck Moon, Bill Jansen, Denny Birkholm, Marilyn Krogh; absent Linda Jensen.

**CHECK-INS, DEVOTION AND OPENING PRAYER:**

Devotion provided by Clara.

**ACCEPT MINUTES OF NOVEMBER MEETING:**

Motion by Chuck, second by Denny, motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Report was reviewed.

**PASTOR'S REPORT FOR**

**NOVEMBER 2021:** Clara provided her report of official activities. She is scheduled to do worship January 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. January's pulpit supply are not yet scheduled. Bishop has returned the signed SAM contract.

**MINISTRY TEAMS:**

- Property—Bill for the steeple repair came in just below the estimate. Will be paid. Quarterly check on the elevator. 2 new batteries installed. Electric boiler has burnt out thermostats. 8 are on order to be replaced. Will also be replacing 2 pressure tanks (1 is failing). Freezing has occurred in the main bathroom. A permanent repair will be explored. The lights in the Sanctuary will all be checked and replaced if needed

before Christmas.

- Family Ministry—No report.
- Music and Worship—Hymns were selected for December. Clara is planning the Christmas Eve Service.
- Circle of Faith—There will be a free community meal on Christmas Day.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Discuss quarterly congregational meeting—Packets have been updated by Heidi. Discussed the order and procedures of the meeting.
- Discuss on-line meeting account—The free conference call line has been registered. Need to determine how this information will be distributed to and used by congregational

members and groups.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Christmas gifts for staff—Discussed and determined.
- Discuss January transitional meeting—Will need to elect new officers, and check signers. Try to keep business to a minimum.
- Membership contact information—Clara will coordinate a team to gather the updated information once the new council is in place.

Motion to adjourn by Chuck, second by Denny, motion carried. Adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting will be January 12, 2022 at 6 pm.

*Respectfully submitted,  
- Bill Jansen  
Council Secretary*



**Quarterly Meeting  
December 12, 2021**

Meeting was called to order at 11:30 am. A quorum was established. The meeting was opened with prayer by Clara Edin, SAM.

**APPROVE THE AGENDA:**

Motion to approve the agenda by Ron Foss, second by Sandy Pavelka, motion carried.

**APPROVE 2022 BUDGET:**

Motion to approve by Denny Birkholm, second by Bill Jansen, motion carried

**2022 NOMINATING COMMITTEE:**

Motion by Marilyn Krogh for Denny Birkholm and Bill Jansen to serve as the nominating committee, second by Mary Johnson, motion carried.

**CONSTITUTION UPDATES:**

Motion by Denny Birkholm to approve the changes to the constitution as presented in the meeting packet, second by Tracy Zinter, motion carried.

**SYNOD GIVING:** Clara address the members present about benevolence giving and how the Synod uses this.

**NEW HYMNALS:** Motion by Yvette Maloney to vote on the purchase of new hymnals, second by Mona Knapp. Ballot Vote: No – 13, Yes – 8. Motion failed.

**COUNCIL MEMBER NOMINATIONS:** Sandy Pavelka, Yvette Maloney, Carolyn Steele. Motion by Delores Nielsen to approve these nominations for 2 year terms, second by Arla Budd, motion carried.

Motion by Sandy Pavelka to nominate Denny Birkholm to fill the open 1 year term on Council, second by Delores Nielson, motion carried.

Clara addressed the members present about sponsorship opportunities.

Motion to adjourn by Denny Birkholm, second by Sandy Pavelka, meeting adjourned at 12:45 pm.

*Respectfully submitted,  
- Bill Jansen  
Council Secretary*



Circle of Faith met on Saturday, November 20, 2021 at the church. Those present were Cookie Nielsen, Tracy Zinter, Carolyn Steele, Shawn Jansen and Marilyn Krogh. Tracy called the meeting to order.

Devotions: Shawn's devotion was a reading of the lyrics to the Serenity song.

Reports: The minutes of the October meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Marilyn, seconded by Cookie, to accept the minutes, motion approved. Treasurer's report

was given by Shawn. The checking account has a balance of \$87.12 and saving account has a balance of \$561.39. Cookie reported she had received three donations. One for \$20, two for \$5 each, and \$10 from the sale of a cookbook. Circle of Faith also wishes to thank the Maloney family for their donation of \$1,350.

**Old Business:**

Shawn provided printouts detailing financials for the Community Outreach dedicated account and Community Outreach budget line account for the period of May 18 to October 24, 2021. She reported free smoke alarms were given out at the October and November community meals. These giveaways were chosen after learning the sensors in most smoke alarms fail after approximately 10 years. Shawn

also read a thank you letter received from a recipient who receives "delivered" community meals.

The Christmas bazaar was discussed. Hours will be 9 am to 2 pm. Soup, sandwiches, and bars will be sold as luncheon items. Flyers will be made and distributed, and an ad will be placed in the area shopper.

Due to a WELCA meeting at this time, the remainder of this meeting was tabled until Sunday and this meeting will continue after services.

SUNDAY,  
NOVEMBER, 21, 2021  
Circle of Faith Meeting  
Continued ...

**New Business:**

A free Christmas dinner will be served noon to 2 pm. A sign up sheet of

items needed will be placed on the kiosk in the fellowship area for those congregation members who wish to donate.

The date for the trimming of the tree which is placed in the fellowship area was set for the Saturday after the Thanksgiving holiday. The time was set at 10 am. The topic of a gift exchange party was tabled until after the new year.

Our next meeting will be on Saturday, December 11, at 10 am.

A motion was made by Cookie, second by Marilyn to adjourn the meeting, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

*Submitted by  
-Marilyn Krogh,  
Acting Secretary*



Circle of Faith met on December 11, 2021 at church. The members in attendance were Tracy Zinter, Cookie Nielsen, Carolyn Steele, Shawn Jansen, Jo Foss, and Mary Johnson.

Tracy called the meeting to order. Devotions given by Jo.

Reports: Secretary minutes from November's meeting were reviewed. Motion made to approve the minutes by Cookie, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Shawn.

Treasurer's report: \$2019.37 in checking and \$1931.39 in savings.

**Old business:** Community meal will be held on Christmas Day, December 25<sup>th</sup>, noon to 2 pm. Tracy suggested that we post a list of places donating for the Christmas Dinner.

Final total from the Christmas Bazaar was \$1932.25. A check for

\$966.12 will be issued to BLC for the quilter's share of these proceeds.

**New business:** Motion made by Mary, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jo to replace the Christmas tree next year for the fellowship area. Circle will have a retirement party for the current tree at their next meeting in January. Pot luck and a small gift exchange will be included. Election of officers will be held.

Circle will purchase and deliver flowers for a BLC member who is undergoing health issues.

Items tabled for further discussion: Valentines dinner on 2/14/22; chili cook off in March; suggestions for community meal incentives to encourage more fellowship.

Motion to adjourn was made by Jo, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carolyn, carried. The meeting adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

Our next meeting will be at church on Saturday, January 15, 2022.

*Respectfully submitted  
-Mary Johnson,  
Secretary*



Jamie Fogt—3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Olivia Moon—3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Michael Petersen—4<sup>th</sup>  
 DJ Zinter—13<sup>th</sup>  
 Jake Klocke—14<sup>th</sup>  
 Kevin Klocke—14<sup>th</sup>  
 Shawn Jansen—22<sup>nd</sup>  
 JoEllyn Foss—23<sup>rd</sup>  
 Dennis Jensen—29<sup>th</sup>  
 Betty Peterson—29<sup>th</sup>  
 Tracy Zinter—29<sup>th</sup>  
 Connie Ecklund—30<sup>th</sup>  
 Kirsten Ecklund—30<sup>th</sup>  
 Hayden Loew—31<sup>st</sup>



Roger & Cindy  
 Jensen—January 23<sup>rd</sup>



We are currently looking for someone who can play the piano that would like to help fill in during Sunday morning worship services.

Even one Sunday a month would be helpful—more would be great!

Position pays \$75 per service.

Please contact the church office at [blcaskov@gmail.com](mailto:blcaskov@gmail.com) or 838-3191 if interested.

**All annual reports are due in the church office by January 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Each Ministry Team and Committee is required to submit an annual report to the congregation for inclusion in our Annual Report**

**(Reports should be typed or emailed to the office in MS Word or RTF format to [blcaskov@gmail.com](mailto:blcaskov@gmail.com), please DO NOT submit reports in PDF format)**

**4th  
 Wednesday of  
 Every Month**

**Bethlehem Lutheran  
 Church • Askov**  
  
[blcaskov@gmail.com](mailto:blcaskov@gmail.com)  
 6318 Kirke Alle  
 320-838-3191

*Donations always accepted to help fund this important ministry!*



**Served from  
 4:30 to 6:30 pm**

**Come, visit with  
 your neighbors  
 over a meal**  
**Enjoy a wonderful  
 time of food and  
 fellowship!**

**FREE  
 COMMUNITY  
 MEAL**

**Gluten Free & Vegetarian Options Available!**